PALAYANNUR EXCISE INSPECTOR—DISPOSAL OF SWEET TODDY TAPPING APPLICATIONS

173. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Will the Government be pleased to state.

(*a*) the number of applications received for licenses for sweet toddy tapping through the Excise Inspector, Palayannur Range during the first quarter of 1115;

(*b*) the average number of days taken by the Inspector to forward these applications to the Excise Circle Office;

(*c*) whether any application for license for sweet toddy tapping has been refused out of those referred to in (*a*);

(*d*) the maximum number of trees allowed to a tapper for sweet toddy tapping in the Palayannur Range;

(*e*) whether the Government have received any complaint from the tappers or anybody pointing out that the Excise Inspector is refusing to recommend for licenses on insufficient grounds?

Mr. M. Raman Menon *(Commissioner of Excise)*: (*a*) One fresh and 25 for renewal.

N. B.—Five applications were received for fresh licenses from the Palayannur Range during the period of which one was received by the Sub-Inspector direct from the applicant and the rest were received in the Commissioner's Office and sent to the Sub-Inspector for enquiry and report. Besides these there were 25 applications (T. T. Ls.) for renewal of licenses.

(*b*) 8 days in the case of applications for fresh licenses, and 2 days in the case of renewals.

(*c*) No.

N. B. - Out of the 4 applications for fresh licenses received in the Head Office direct, two were refused after enquiry.

(*d*) 20 palmyra trees.

(*e*) No.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* May I know, Sir, the reasons, for rejecting these two applications in the case of two persons referred to in sub-division (*c*)?

Mr. M. Raman Menon *(Commissioner of Excise):* Very probably they were not *bona fide* applications.

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Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* May I know whether the Hon'ble Member for Excise is not sure of the reasons for rejecting those applications?

Mr. M. Raman Menon *(Commissioner of Excise):* The enquiry is not done by the Commissioner personally.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* May I know whether the Government is aware that last year the Hon'ble Member for Excise said that the only purpose for insisting upon application for sweet toddy tapping is for the purpose of information and for no other purpose at all?

Mr. M. Raman Menon *(Commissioner of Excise):* It is for stopping abuse of the privilege granted that information is wanted.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* Is the Government aware of the statement made by the former Excise Commissioner?

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* In answer to sub-division (*d*) it is stated that the maximum number of trees permitted for a single tapper is 20 in the case of palmyra trees. May I know whether all these applicants have been given permission to tap 20 trees?

Mr. M. Raman Menon *(Commissioner of Excise):* Permission is given only according to their demand. In certain cases where it is found that they are not able to tap 20 trees only a lesser number is allowed.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Are there not cases where these 20 trees were refused?

Mr. M. Raman Menon *(Commissioner of Excise):* There is no rule that the maximum should be allowed in all cases. The discretion is left with the Department.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Is it on consideration of the physical fitness of the individual applicant?

Mr. M. Raman Menon *(Commissioner of Excise):* That is one of the reasons.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ: വേണ്ടിടത്തോളം പന ചെത്തിയില്ലെങ്കിൽ അതു ചെത്തുകാരുടെ നഷ്ടമായിരിക്കും, അതുകൊണ്ടു് അവർക്കു പ്രയോജനമുണ്ടായിരിക്കയില്ലെന്നുള്ളതു് എക്സൈസ് കമ്മീഷണർക്കു അറിയാമോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ എം. രാമൻമേനോൻ: എങ്ങിനെ വേണമെന്നു അവശ്യപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുണ്ടോ അങ്ങിനെ അനുവദിക്കും.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ: നമ്പർ കുറുക്കിയാൽ അതു ചെത്തുകാരുടെ ദോഷകരമായിരിക്കുകയില്ലേ?

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മിസ്റ്റർ എം. രാമൻമേനോൻ. രണ്ടും മൂന്നുമായിട്ട് അനുവദിക്കാറില്ല. പത്തിൽ കുറവായി ഒരിക്കലും അനുവദിക്കാറില്ല. കൂടുതലായി പത്തും, പതിനഞ്ചും ഇരുപതും ആയിട്ടെ അനുവദിക്കാറുള്ളൂ.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* I know, Sir, certain instances when applications were made for the tapping of 10 trees and where they were arbitrarily reduced to 5.

Mr. M. Raman Menon *(Commissioner of Excise):* Not in the case of palmyras.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Tallappalli):* If the hon'ble member says like that I have nothing to say.

Mr. M. Raman Menon *(Commissioner of Excise):* No such instances have come to my notice.

174. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappa li):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether the Excise Inspector, Palayannur Range has forwarded any application for license for sweet toddy tapping from 1st Thulam to 15th Thulam (both days inclusive) 1115, to the Circle Inspector, Trichur;

(*b*) if so, how many of such applications were forwarded;

(*c*) when did the Inspector, Palayannur Range receive orders from the Circle Inspector on those applications;

(*d*) whether licenses, either temporary or permanent, were issued to the tappers on applications referred to in (*a*);

(*e*) whether there is anything in record in the Excise Range Office, Palayannur to show that these licenses were actually delivered to the tappers ?

Mr. M. Raman Menon *(Commissioner of Excise):*

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Five applications (*i. e.*, certified T. T. Ls.).

(*c*) Four applications (T. T. Ls.) were received back by the Sub-Inspector, Palayannur Range with the temporary licenses, on 14th Thulam 1115 and one on 12th Thulam 1115.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) The rules require the delivery of temporary licenses to the tappers immediately after marking and the date of marking is entered in the T. T. L (b) register

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